

HITCHCOCK IS IGNORED

GOVERNOR M'CURTAIN GIVES PAT-
ENTS TO ALLOTTEES.

Forcing a Climax on a Long and Bitter
Contest Lasting for Eight Months.
Interior Department Claims
Authority Bixby Silent.

A South McAlester special says:
A surprise was sprung today when
Governor Green McCurtain of the
Choctaw nation commenced the deliv-
ery of patents to Indian allottees, the
first ever given in either the Choctaw
or Chickasaw nations. For the past
eight months a bitter war between
Secretary Hitchcock of the interior de-
partment, and the governors of the
two tribes has been in progress over
the approval of the deeds by the in-
terior department.

A prolonged and bitter contest be-
tween Secretary of the Interior Hitch-
cock and the governors of the Choctaw
and Chickasaw tribes of Indians have
been waged over the point of law re-
specting the approval of deeds to in-
dian lands by the secretary. The Indian
officials have contended that there is
no authority for the secretary to as-
sume the right to pass on each instru-
ment before it is delivered to the al-
lottee, while the interior department
has ruled that Mr. Hitchcock has a
moral, if not legal, right to see that
his wards are given proper protection
in the matter. Deeds were sent here
by the interior department for the
signature of the governors. On the bot-
tom line of the paper is a place for
the secretary's approval. This caused
a halt on the part of the Indians.
While they signed the deeds they placed
them under lock and key and today
over a thousand deeds are locked in
a local bank vault waiting for Sec-
retary Hitchcock to give in. Both sides
have held on firmly to their contention
for over eight months and recently the
attorney general of the interior de-
partment rendered a decision declaring
the secretary's position was valid.
This did not bluff the Indians into sub-
mission and they declare they will never
yield. As the tribal governments are
to be abolished by treaty next
March the long delay may complicate
matters sorely.

Today's action was without knowl-
edge or authority of the interior de-
partment, but in strict accordance with
the last treaty entered into by the fed-
eral government and the Indians.

Chairman Bixby of the Dawes com-
mission today said he would take no
action, it being a matter of Secretary
Hitchcock to adjust. He predicts com-
plications and mandamus suits from
citizens whose rights have been dis-
puted by the Indians, in case they are
not given deeds, and alleges that such
is the intention of the Indian chiefs.
This is denied by tribal authorities.

C. M. Haines May Die.
Ada, I. T., April 21.—C. M. Haines,
who was formerly in the restaurant
and hotel business in this city, was
shot and it is thought fatally injured,
Tuesday morning at the depot at Maud
just as the eastbound passenger train
pulled into the station.

Haines, it seems, has been having
some trouble with a stepson and as the
latter was about to board the train he
knocked the boy down and was ad-
ministering a severe beating to him,
when the boy pulled a gun from his
pocket and at close range sent a bul-
let through the breast of his late fa-
ther. Haines arose and staggered away
when the boy again fired the fatal
shot which had the fatal effect in the
back.

The boy then boarded the train and
came to Konawa, when he gave him-
self up to the officers of the law.

Gainesville's Street Railway.
Special to the Ardmoreite.

Gainesville, Texas, April 22.—E. J.
O'Blaine, who is president of the com-
pany which owns the electric plant at
this place, has arrived here from Bir-
mingham, Ala. He was recently grant-
ed a franchise for an electric street
railway and announces that work will
begin on the line soon and that it will
be in operation this summer.

SENATOR PLATT DEAD.

Dies at Washington After Illness of
Short Duration.

Washington, April 22.—Senator O.
H. Platt of Connecticut died in this
city at 8:53 o'clock tonight after an
illness of some weeks. His death was
the result of pneumonia with various
other complications. For the past
week he has been growing steadily
weaker, and although there was a
slight hope of his recovery up to this
noon it was feared his end was near.

Orville Hitchcock Platt was born at
Washington, Conn., in 1827. He stud-
ied law and was admitted to the bar in
1849 and established a law practice at
Meriden, Conn. In 1857 he was a
clerk of the state senate, in which
body he served as a member in 1861-2.
He was elected to the Connecticut
house of representatives in 1864 and
1869, serving as speaker during the
last year, and since 1879 he has been
continuously a member of the United
States senate. As a member of the
committee on relations with Cuba he
introduced the amendment which
placed Cuba under the military protec-
tion of the United States.

LIVES LOST IN CONVENT

THIRTEEN FEMALES CREMATED
IN FRIGHTFUL HOLOCAUST.

Convent Pupils Could Not Escape
Doom of Fiery Death—Nun's Hero-
ic Efforts to Save Children Re-
sults in Her Own Death.

Montreal, April 22.—A disastrous
fire broke out at an early hour today
and reduced to ashes the convent in
the little village of St. Genevieve,
Quebec. One nun, eight children and
four old ladies lost their lives.

Bucket brigades were hurriedly
formed by the villagers but the fire
had gained such headway that it was
soon apparent that there was no
chance to save the building from de-
struction. Notwithstanding all ef-
forts unfortunately there was a deplora-
ble loss of life. Sister Regenera in
her heroic efforts to save the lives
of the children in her charge, succumb-
ed to the smoke and flames. The pu-
pils who perished were in a portion of
the building where the fire had obtained
too much headway before the alarm
was given to enable those who re-
sponded to rescue them.

The fire started about midnight. An
effort was made to get Point Clair by
telephone so that assistance could be
had from Montreal, but for some reason
yet to be explained, no response
was received from Point Clair.

The fire started in the old ladies'
hospital and the smoke was so thick
that the children on the floor above
were unable to get down.

The convent was called St. Eannes
and was a branch of the convent of
the Sisters of St. Anne of Lachine.
The building was a grey stone struc-
ture, handsome in appearance, mas-
sive and with the church, formed a
central feature of the pretty little vil-
lage.

New City Hall.

Special to the Ardmoreite.

Gainesville, Texas, April 22.—The
contract to build the new city hall at
this place was yesterday afternoon
awarded to a San Antonio firm. The
building is to cost \$16,780 and is to
be completed by October 21.

"Col. Lumpkin" on Honest Trac-
tion.
"Colonel Lumpkin," John McCauley
Palmer's doughty politician, turned re-
former, in the May's McClure's shows
what would happen if public franchises
were honestly administered. In amus-
ing but trenchant satire, Mr. Palmer
dissects the whole complicated and de-
vicious system by which public fran-
chises become private loot, and makes
clear in the words of "Colonel Lump-
kin" just how the millennium of honest
trac-tion may be attained.

Satire is a much neglected vehicle
of expression nowadays, but these
stories of Palmer's show that it is no
less forceful than in the days of Dean
Swift and his contemporaries, when it
was a weapon by which all political
battles were lost or won.

TO DIVIDE BIG PASTURE

INDIAN AGENT AT ANADARKO
WILL SO RECOMMEND.

An Effort is Also on Foot in the New
Country to Employ Dennis Flynn
to Push the Matter of Open-
ing the Big Reservation.

Lawton, Okla., April 22.—An effort
is on foot in the new country to em-
ploy Hon. Dennis Flynn to take hold
of the matter of opening the 480,000
acre Indian pasture reserve of Coman-
che county during the coming session
of congress. It is expected that the
city council, county commissioners and
commercial clubs will enter into
some kind of a contract to this end.
Major James F. Randlett, the United

GIVES UP FIGHTING

IRA TERRELL, THE OKLAHOMA
CONVICT, SUBMITS.

Is Willing to Serve Out His Time.
Taken Back to Kansas Penitentiary.
He Intends Suing for Dam-
ages When Free.

Leavenworth, Kan., April 22.—Ira N.
Terrill was taken back to the Kansas
penitentiary tonight and he announced
that he would make no more efforts
in court to get out, but would at the
end of his term sue the warden and
certain Oklahoma officials for dam-
ages.
Terrill was granted a second hear-
ing in court this afternoon on an
amended petition, when he raised the



EASTER MORNING.

States Indian agent at Anadarko, in
conversation with Col E. F. Mitchell
recently stated that he would recom-
mend to the secretary of the interior
that a portion of the big pasture taken
from the western side, be leased for
agricultural purposes when the new
lease contracts are made. The dividing
line between the portions will
probably be so situated that about 200,
000 acres of the land may be placed
in the western portion.

The secretary has not yet made a
re-advertisement for bids, and it is
expected that Randlett's recommenda-
tion will precede that re-advertisement.
It is reported that Waggoner and Bur-
nett will bid on the remainder of the
lands for grazing purposes.

Compare our prices with others. If
we don't save you money, don't buy of
us. Is that fair? Our goods are new.
No carried-over styles to show you.
23 ARDMORE DRY GOODS CO.

Some of the republican papers of
the east are already beginning to pre-
dict that President Roosevelt will go
out of office as heartily dispised as
Grover Cleveland. All of which may be
very true, but it must be conceded at
the present writing the president is
having a "bully time" hunting bear
and trimming down the hand held on
the big stick he is going to bradish
over congress next October. If Roose-
velt does his duty in trying to give to
the people the laws that he conscien-
tiously believes should be engrafted
upon the statute books and is turned
down by his own party, then the blame
must rest with the party and not with
the president.

Palmer's Perfumes are delightfully
fragrant and lasting. We have them.
23 F. J. RAMSEY, Druggist.

FINE FISHING TRIP.

R. W. Dick, Sidney Suggs and Others
Return From Expedition.

R. W. Dick, Sidney Suggs, S. T.
Bledsoe and Mr. Kennerly of Gaines-
ville returned Friday night from the
Choctaw Nation where they spent sev-
eral days in company with other Ard-
more parties fishing and hunting.
The fishermen who returned brought
back pleasant reminiscences of the trip
and likewise tales of camp life.

It was stated that Mr. Bledsoe chased
a mountain panther for over six
hours only to discover that he had
made a mistake. Some one said that
the animal was a she-cat that had stray-
ed off in the mountains.

Mr. Suggs easily won the honors
by killing a wild turkey, the only one
that was brought into camp. He also
distinguished himself by catching the
biggest mess of fish.

Mr. Dick said that he had a great
time and really enjoyed the trip, while
the others said that the outing was
greatly enjoyed by them.

The party hunted and fished in the
mountains north of Garvin, where the
rest of the Ardmoreites are camped.

Mr. Suggs says that he took a large
number of subscribers for the paper
on his return trip.

One of the fishermen is keeping a
diary and a full report will be made
when the others arrive.

CROP CONDITIONS.

Rain has interfered With Farmers.
Reduction in Cotton Acreage.

Weather conditions have interfered
seriously with farmers in the Chicka-
saw Nation during the past month,
there being considerable complaint of
too much moisture which has prevent-
ed the tillers of the soil from planting
their crop. Nearly all of the corn has
been planted, but very little work has
been done toward planting cotton.
The moisture has retarded the efforts
of the farmers and they are behind.
Warm weather is needed just at pre-
sent to develop crop conditions. It is
learned that there has been a slight
decrease in cotton acreage in this
section. Cotton men are of the opin-
ion that the decrease will not exceed
5 per cent throughout the Chickasaw
Nation, while some are inclined to be-
lieve that the crop will be curtailed at
least 15 per cent. Many farmers an-
nounced their intention of reducing
the acreage at the commencement of
the season, but whether they will do
so remains to be seen. It is evident
that they are not impressed with
prevailing prices and would rather
plant a more profitable crop. A large
number are making a plea for divest-
ification. Within the past few months
a great deal of land has been culti-
vated in fruit. This in time will prove
profitable to farmers who are aban-
doning cotton for other crops.

At the Washita presbytery at Atoka
it was announced that many members
would attend the Bible conference
which meets here June 13-23. Rev.
Weith, who attended the session, said
that great crowds were coming here
for the event. He said that the meet-
ing of the Washita presbytery was a
most successful one and that it was
largely attended.

Chickasaw Telephone Company.

One enterprise of which the peo-
ple of Ardmore are justly proud is the
Chickasaw Telephone company, with
this place as headquarters. Their op-
erations extend over almost the entire
nation and wherever their lines have
been installed it has resulted in the
increased efficiency of telephone ser-
vice. The company has local exchange
at Duncan, Marietta and at Ard-
more. The accommodating service at
these places is sufficient recommenda-
tion, to say nothing of their toll lines
which embrace a most satisfactory
connection between Santa Fe and
Rock Island towns, together with other
intermediate points. The expansive
and modernizing policy of Mr. W. H.
Barry, the manager of the company,
certainly meets with the approval of
the people of Ardmore.

The Ardmore exchange is perhaps
the finest in the Indian Territory. At
present there are more than 500 tele-
phones, with such an increasing de-
mand for new ones that the company
is now enlarging the switch board fa-
cilities to a sufficient capacity for the
accommodation of 650 subscribers,
which will be accomplished within the
next three months.

SQUADRON ON THE WAY

SOLENN PRAYERS FOR THE SAFE-
TY OFFERED IN RUSSIA.

Its Destination Is Vladivostok or the
Bottom of the Deep Blue Sea.
Nothing Has Been Heard of
Fourth Russian Squadron.

St. Petersburg, April 22.—Reports
are current here that the Russian sec-
ond squadron has already left Kam-
ranh bay and is on the way to Vladi-
vostok, but the government will pro-
ceed with action on the Japanese pro-
test as the squadron had not contin-
ued its voyage.

A special service was held in the
admiralty church yesterday to offer
prayers for the safety of the squad-
ron and its successful arrival at Vladi-
vostok.

The service was attended by High
Admiral Grand Duke Alexis, Admiral
Avelan, chief of the admiralty, and
other prominent naval officers.

St. Petersburg, April 22.—The latest
word of Admiral Rojestvensky was a
dispatch from the agent of the finance
minister at Shanghai saying the squad-
ron had passed through the straits of
Formosa, but the authority given by
the agent for his statement is consid-
ered doubtful. The admiralty pro-
fesses a good deal of skepticism re-
garding all the dispatches from the
far East reporting the location of the
Russian vessels pointing out that false
news is likely to be set afloat delib-
erately. The officials here neither deny
nor affirm the report that Rojestven-
sky is still at Kamranh bay.

The foreign office displays no an-
xiety as a result of the protests made
by Japan over the alleged violation of
French neutrality, expressing confi-
dence that when all the facts are
known it will be found that the Rus-
sians did not violate the neutrality of
France. Serious complications are
not anticipated.

The repetition of the story that the
Russian protected cruiser Aarkold, in-
terned at Shanghai, is taking on coal
and preparing to slip out is again de-
nied.

Nothing has been heard from the
fourth division of the Russian squad-
ron commanded by Admiral Nebogotoff.
Most of the naval men express
the opinion that Rojestvensky will not
await a juncture with Nebogotoff, but
will allow this weaker division to trail
behind him.

Lew Wallace's Unwritten Novel.

The great American novel, accord-
ing to the great Lew Wallace, was
"Muralve Eastman," by Tourgee—a
book of fifteen years ago. It has a
sub-title, "Christian Socialist," and is
a story that few people have read, as
it was issued by a small publishing
house. General Wallace thought this
little detracted from its interest, as
people might imagine it a life of a so-
cialist leader, or a treatise on social-
ism.

General Wallace himself had in mind
an American novel. He once said
that it was his intention to write this
story after he had completed his me-
moirs. His theme was the striving of
Americans to accomplish wonderful
things in an incredibly short time. His
hero was to be a restless American,
who lived for a few years in Europe,
then in Australia, in Africa, and in
South America, and who, finally, after
years of wandering, returns to his own
country only to start again upon his
journey, never satisfied, never happy,
the spirit of an Indian within him, and
the childlike desire to see new scenes.
In each of these countries his hero
was to accomplish worthy deeds, and
when he returns to his own country it
is with the intention of leading the life
of a son of the soil, but his hero finds
he cannot do so. The story would
have been suggestive of "The Vin-
ing Jew," with the element of religious
controversy eliminated.—From "Suc-
cess Magazine."

New line Scott's health bushes and
hip pads at the
23 ARDMORE DRY GOODS CO.